

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:EGABINGTON/HLK
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S/PRS:J.ORDWAY
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S/S:MR.SEBASTIAN
P:P.OAKLEY
S:D.SPIEGEL

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O 092314Z FEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
USLO RIYADH IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 029778

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST

1. WE HAVE NOW HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO LOOK AT THE SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE FOR HIS TRIP IN ITS ENTIRETY AND WISH TO MAKE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON AND ADJUSTMENTS IN IT. OUR
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CONCERN AT THIS POINT IS TO ATTEMPT TO BUILD MORE STAFF TIME FOR THE SECRETARY INTO A HIGHLY COMPRESSED SCHEDULE WHICH HAS HIM VISITING SIX COUNTRIES IN A WEEK.

2. BRIEFING BY EMBASSY STAFF: COMMENTS FOR EACH POST WILL FOLLOW BELOW, BUT WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO STRUCTURE THE BRIEFING ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES. AMBASSADOR OR

CHARGE SHOULD GIVE BRIEF INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT WHICH FOCUSES ON THE SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS THAG THE SECRETARY WILL BE HAVING WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. YOU SHOULD PLACE YOUR EMPHASIS ON THE NATURE OF THE DISCUSSIONS HE WILL BE HAVING AND WHAT WILL BE UPPERMOST IN HOSTS' MINDS, GIVING HIM YOUR PERSPECTIVE ON POTENTIAL PITFALLS, ETC. THE MEETING WILL THEN BE OPENED TO QUESTIONS BY THE SECRETARY AND MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY. THOSE EMBASSY OFFICIALS ATTENDING THE BRIEFING SHOULD NOT GIVE PRESENTATIONS BUT BE AVAILABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AS THE NEED ARISES. FOLLOWING ARE COMMENTS ON SCENARIOS FOR

EACH INDIVIDUAL STOP.

3. FOR TEL AVIV:

A. EMBASSY BRIEFING: WE ARE SETTING ASIDE A MAXIMUM OF FORTY-FIVE MINUTES FOR THIS MEETING.

B. VISIT TO YAD VASHEM: WE WONDER IF IT MIGHT NOT BE PREFERABLE FOR HABIB, CARTER AND DUNNIGAN TO MEET SECRETARY AT PRIME MINISTER'S RESIDENCE AND THEN TO PROCEED TO YAD VASHEM BY CONVOY. THIS WOULD MINIMIZE POSSIBILITY THAT SECRETARY WOULD ARRIVE THERE BEFORE ACCOMPANYING PARTY.

C. RABIN LUNCHEON MEETING: IF GOI WISHES TO HAVE LUNCHEON BEGIN AT 1230 INSTEAD OF 1315, THIS WOULD BE PREFERABLE FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW, ELIMINATING NEED CONFIDENTIAL

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TO RETURN TO HOTEL BEFORE LUNCH.

D. PERES MEETING: WE WISH TO SET ASIDE THIRTY MINUTES FOR THIS MEETING.

E. CALL ON MRS. MEIR: GIVEN EARLY DEPARTURE FROM ISRAEL FEBRUARY 17, WE DO NOT BELIEVE BREAKFAST THAT MORNING WOULD BE FEASIBLE. WE PROPOSE INSTEAD, IF IT CAN BE ARRANGED, THAT SECRETARY CALL ON MRS. MEIR AT APPROXIMATELY 8:00PM, FEBRUARY 16 AND DELAY FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON'S DINNER UNTIL 8:30PM.

4. FOR CAIRO: SECRETARY WISHES NO MEETINGS TO BE SCHEDULED MORNING OF FEBRUARY 18.

5. FOR BEIRUT:

A. AFTER CONSULTATION WITH AMBASSADOR PARKER, WE HAVE DECIDED THAT LANE SHOULD PROCEED TO CAIRO.

B. REQUEST YOU APPROACH MFA TO DETERMINE WHETHER TRAVELING PRESS COULD COVER EVENTS AT BAABDA PALACE.

6. FOR AMMAN:

EMBASSY BRIEFING SHOULD BE FROM 5:00PM TO 5:30, FOLLOWED

BY COM MEETING FROM 5:30 TO 6:30. SECRETARY WOULD THEN DEPART FOR GUEST PALACE WITH FREE TIME SCHEDULED UNTIL 7:40 MEETING WITH KING HUSSEIN AND 8:00 DINNER HOSTED BY KING.

B. GUIDANCE ON PARTICIPATION IN COM MEETING WAS GIVEN IN STATE 28716 (NOTAL). WE PREFER NOT TO SCHEDULE ANY MEETINGS WITH COM'S SATURDAY MORNING WITH MEMBERS OF OFFICIAL PARTY AT THIS POINT, SINCE WE ANTICIPATE ALL CONFIDENTIAL

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MEMBERS OF OFFICIAL PARTY WILL TAKE PART IN SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH JORDANIANS THAT MORNING.

C. REQUEST YOUR JUDGMENT WHETHER BREAKFAST WITH KING HUSSEIN COULD BE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AT 8:30 VICE 8:00. IF YOU BELIEVE THIS WOULD NOT CAUSE OFFENSE TO GOJ, PLEASE DISCREETLY SOUND THIS OUT WITH ROYAL PROTOCOL.

7. FOR JIDDA: SECRETARY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AMBASSADOR PORTER MEET PARTY IN AMMAN FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, AND THEN ACCOMPANY ON AIRCRAFT TO RIYADH. THIS WOULD ALLOW AMBASSADOR TO BRIEF SECRETARY AND OFFICIAL PARTY PRIOR TO ARRIVAL AND ELIMINATE NEED FOR EMBASSY BRIEFING IN RIYADH.

8. FOR DAMASCUS: AMBASSADOR MURPHY SHOULD PROCEED TO RIYADH ON FEBRUARY 20 AND ACCOMPANY SECRETARY ON AIRCRAFT TO DAMASCUS. THIS WILL MEAN ELIMINATION OF WORKING LUNCH HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR. ON ARRIVAL IN DAMASCUS, SECRETARY WILL PROCEED TO MERIDIEN HOTEL WHERE HE WILL REMAIN UNTIL MEETING WITH KHADDAM BEGINS. LUNCH WILL BE SERVED ON AIRCRAFT.

9. FOR ALL ADDRESSES: WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT EACH EVENT ON THE SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE INVOLVING MEETINGS WITH FOREIGN OFFICIALS AND DETERMINE WHETHER TRAVELING PRESS WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE AT SITE OF THESE MEETINGS.
VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE029778
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EGABINGTON/HLK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770047-0036
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770256/aaaabyca.tel
Line Count: 168
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1cc418c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3360370
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST
TAGS: OVIP, (VANCE, CYRUS)
To: AMMAN BEIRUT MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1cc418c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009